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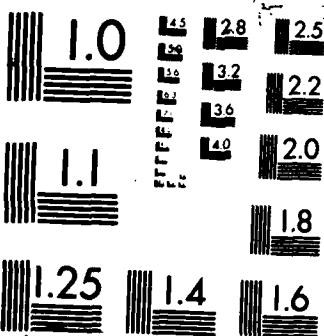
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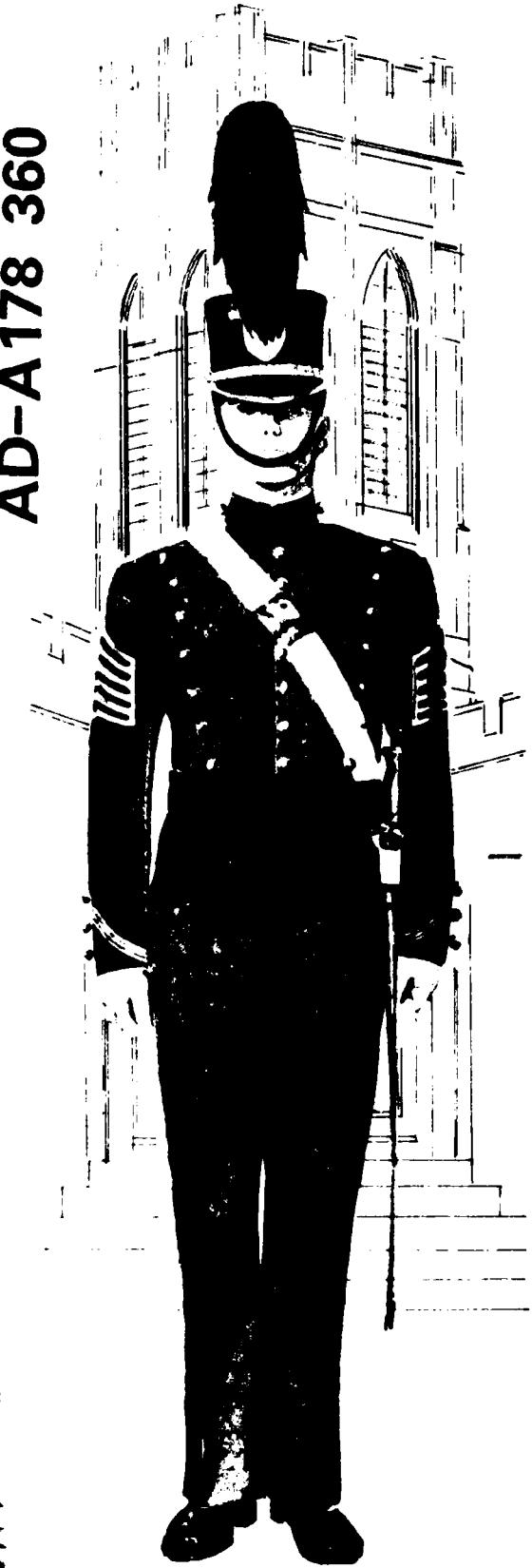
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UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

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TRENDS IN
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THROUGH
THE CLASS OF 1990

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TRENDS IN ADMISSION VARIABLES THROUGH THE CLASS OF 1990

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March 1987

ABSTRACT

The United States Military Academy uses the Whole Candidate concept in the selection of candidates for admission. This concept encompasses three broad areas: academics, leadership potential, and physical condition and aptitude. This report compares the pre-USMA performance of members of the Class of 1990 with previous classes in these three areas.

NOTE: Any conclusions in this report are not to be construed as official U. S. Military Academy or Department of the Army positions unless so designated by other authorized documents.



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I. PURPOSE. This report contains information, for rapid reference, comparing the pre-USMA performance of members of the Class of 1990 with previous classes in the areas of academics, leadership potential, and physical condition and aptitude.

II. METHODOLOGY. Data displayed in this report were obtained from the following sources:

- A. Academic Performance: High School Transcripts, American College Tests and College Entrance Examination Board Tests.
- B. Physical Performance: Physical Aptitude Exam.
- C. Leadership Potential: An index developed from combining extra-curricular and athletic activities with high school faculty evaluation.

III. RESULTS.

A. The mean SAT-Math score (642) for cadets in the Class of 1990 is the highest in the past ten years, and the mean SAT-Verbal score (566) is the second highest in the past ten years. Cadet performance in high school and on College Board exams has resulted in a mean CEER score of 610, which is the highest on record. The academic qualifications of cadets place them in the top 10-15% of college bound high school seniors.

B. The Class of 1990 Physical Aptitude Exam score for men (575) is the highest in the last ten years and eleven points higher than the average of the previous nine years.

C. The mean Leadership Potential Score (598) is two points lower than for the Class of 1989, and two points below the average of the previous nine years.

D. The mean Whole Candidate Score (6016) for cadets in the Class of 1990 is nineteen points below the high of 6035 set by the Class of 1989, but seventy-one points higher than the average of the previous nine years.

IV. CONCLUSION. The U.S. Military Academy continues to enroll outstanding cadets.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Background.

1. This report, along with the reports, Characteristics of the Class of 1990 (September 1986) and New Cadets and Other College Freshmen, Class of 1990 (due spring, 1987), comprise the three general reports prepared by the Office of Institutional Research to describe the Class of 1990 at the time the class entered the Military Academy.

2. The same reports were prepared for the Classes of 1971 through 1989 and similar reports are planned for each future class when it enters the Military Academy.

B. Purpose. This report compares the pre-USMA performance of members of the Class of 1990 with previous classes in the areas of academics, leadership, physical condition and aptitude. It is intended to serve as a reference source by USMA officials.

II. METHODOLOGY

A. Data Collection. Data displayed in this report were obtained from the following sources:

1. Academic performance: High School Transcripts, American College Tests, and College Entrance Examination Board Tests.
2. Physical performance: Physical Aptitude Exam.
3. School Activities and Awards: Self-reported by cadets on questionnaires administered during Cadet Basic Training.
4. Leadership Potential: An index developed from combining extracurricular and athletic activities with high school faculty evaluations.

B. Definitions.

1. CEER A composite score of College Entrance Examination Board Scores (SAT-V, SAT-M) and High School Rank.
2. HSR High School Rank score.
3. LPS Leadership Potential Score.
4. PAE Physical Aptitude Examination.
5. SAT-V Scholastic Aptitude Test - Verbal.
6. SAT-M Scholastic Aptitude Test - Mathematics.
7. ACT-EN American College Test - English.
8. ACT-MA American College Test - Mathematics.
9. ACT-NS American College Test - Natural Science.
10. ACEER A composite score of 3 ACT tests and HSR (the ACT Social Science test is not used in calculating the ACEER).
11. WCS Whole Candidate Score. A combination of CEER (or ACEER), LPS and PAE.

III. RESULTS

A. Academic Characteristics.

1. The mean College Entrance Examination Board, American College Test scores, and high school rank scores for the Classes of 1984 through 1990 for admitted cadets are:

	1990			1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984
	M	F	Total						
SAT-V	564	580	566	569	565	559	560	549	552
SAT-M	644	626	642	636	637	636	631	620	623
ACT-EN	23.9	24.6	23.9	23.6	24.4	23.5	23.4	23.3	23.2
ACT-MA	29.0	28.5	28.9	29.1	29.2	29.1	28.9	28.6	28.9
ACT-NS	29.5	28.5	29.4	29.3	29.4	29.2	28.7	28.7	28.7
HSR	577	623	582	580	575	583	580	570	556

2. The mean SAT-V score for men in the Class of 1990 is higher than that of 85% of male secondary school seniors nationwide who took the test; and the mean score for women cadets is higher than 90% of female college bound high school seniors. The mean SAT-M score of male cadets was higher than 85% of the national norm group of male students; the mean score for women cadets was above 91% of the female norm group. The means of cadets on the American College Test scores were also well above the national average of students tested under the ACT Program. On average, cadets outscored 81% of students in the national sample on ACT-English. The mean ACT-Math for male cadets is higher than 92% of the norm group; that for female cadets is above 97% of women in the sample. Male cadets' average ACT-Natural Science is above 83% of their norm group, female cadets averaged above 88% of the female norm group.

3. Entering cadets differ from the national SAT norm group of all college-bound high school seniors on several dimensions. In the national norm group, men outperform women on both verbal and math tests, averaging 11 points higher on SAT-V and 50 points on SAT-M. Among entering cadets, women outperform men by an average 16 points on SAT-V. Male cadets outscore women on SAT-M by an average of only 18 points.

4. Each candidate is evaluated either on College Board scores and High School Rank (CEER) or American College Test program scores and HSR (ACEER). If both are available, the higher of the two is used. The HSR is a measurement of the candidate percentile standing in his/her graduating class rescaled to the 200-800 scale to be consistent with other admission variables. Table 1 provides a comparison of the number of cadets within each CEER range with the number of fully examined candidates (with nominations) within the same range, noting the percent offered admission and percent admitted. Table 2 shows a similar comparison of candidates and cadets evaluated using ACEER scores. Table 3 shows the distribution, at 50 point intervals, of Whole Candidate Score components for cadets in the Class of 1990.

B. Physical Aptitude. The average Physical Aptitude Examination score of 575 for men in the USMA Class 1990 is eleven points above the average score for the previous nine classes, and shows a increase over the mean score for the Class of 1989. The women in the Class of 1990 had a mean PAE score of 523. It should be noted that PAE tests for men and women are scored in part on different items and thus are not comparable. The mean PAE for cadets and all candidates is shown in Table 4.

C. Leadership Potential. The Leadership Potential Score is derived from the ratings of candidates by their secondary school teachers and evaluations by admissions officials of the quality of participation by candidates in athletic and other school and community activities. The mean LPS for the Class of 1990 was 598, which is two points lower than the Class of 1989.

D. Overall Characteristics.

1. The Whole Candidate Score is a weighted score consisting of 60 percent CEER (or ACEER), 30 percent LPS, and 10 percent PAE. The distribution of the WCS for the Class of 1990 is shown below.

<u>Score Range</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Percent</u>
7500-8000	0	0
7000-7499	10	0.8
6500-6999	123	9.3
6000-6499	578	43.5
5500-5999	478	36.0
5000-5499	133	10.0
4500-4999	6	0.5
Mean = 6016 Standard Deviation = 392		

2. A tabular comparison of the number of cadets whose scores fall in each WCS score range with the number of fully examined candidates within the same ranges is shown in Table 6.

E. Trends In Admissions Variables. Figures 1-7 show trend data for the Classes of 1981 through 1990. Trends for admitted cadets reflect the following:

1. SAT-V scores have declined slightly from those of the Class of 1989, but are the second highest in the last ten years. SAT-M scores for cadets have risen over the past five years after a period of decline for Classes of 1984 and 1985 (Figures 1 and 2).

2. The mean HSR for the Class of 1990 was 582 and is the third highest HSR of the last ten years (Figure 3).

3. The mean CEER score for admitted cadets has increased over the past three years to a high of 610, which is the highest score in the last ten years (Figure 4).

4. The mean LPS for admitted cadets has remained fairly constant over a ten year period. LPS fluctuations (Classes 1987-1988) stem in part from changes in scoring techniques and rescaling of two components of the LPS (Figure 5).¹

5. PAE scores for men show a rising trend for the Classes of 1986 through 1990. In contrast, the mean PAE among fully examined candidates dropped significantly for the Class of 1988, due to an increase in the number of candidates scoring below 400 on the PAE (Figure 6).

6. The WCS for the Class of 1990 shows decline from the Class of 1989, but is the second highest in the last ten years (Figure 7).

¹ LPS scores for the Classes of 1987 through 1988 reflect progressive changes in the LPS. The Class of 1986 was the first class to be evaluated for admission to USMA using school official evaluations of candidate leadership performance in high school as the FAS component of the LPS. Candidates to earlier classes were evaluated on leadership potential rather than performance. Mean LPS for the Class of 1986 shows a dip because data processing limitations necessitated a compromise scoring technique which reduced the mean FAS by 20-25 points, reducing the LPS by 6 to 8 points. Scoring difficulties were resolved with the Class of 1987. The EX and AT components of the LPS were rescaled for candidates to the Class of 1988, leading to an apparent depression of the LPS.

F. Selected Activities and Awards.

1. Tables 7 and 7a give information on the background, activities and awards of entering cadets of the Classes of 1981 through 1990.

2. As with previous classes, cadets in the Class of 1990 were active in diverse extracurricular and athletic activities in high school. Eighty-seven percent earned varsity letters and 56% were team captains. Thirty-three percent held an elective class office during their senior year that included president, senior class officer, and president, of the student body. Other popular activities include scouting, dramatics and debate. Ten percent of the cadets in the Class of 1990 were valedictorians, which is the highest in the last ten years.

IV. CONCLUSION

The U.S. Military Academy continues to enroll outstanding cadets.

TABLE 1

Comparison of the Number of Cadets (Evaluated Using CEER)
With the Number of Fully Examined Candidates (Evaluated Using CEER)
at Each CEER Score Level for the Class of 1990

<u>Score Ranges</u>	<u>No. of Candidates</u>	<u>% Offered Admission</u>	<u>% Entered</u>	<u>No. of Cadets</u>	<u>% Yield</u>
750-800	28	64%	39%	11	61%
700-749	167	56	28	47	50
650-699	473	53	36	169	68
600-649	968	39	29	280	74
550-599	968	29	24	228	83
500-549	694	22	19	129	86
450-499	334	10	8	25	80
400-449	126	2	2	2	100
350-399	53	0	0	0	0
300-349	14	0	0	0	0
250-299	5	0	0	0	0
200-249	0	0	0	0	0
Number	3830			891	
Mean	580			609	
SD	77			61	

TABLE 2

Comparison of the Number of Cadets (Evaluated Using ACEER)
With the Number of Fully Examined Candidates (Evaluated Using ACEER)
at Each CEER Score Level for the Class of 1990

<u>Score Ranges</u>	<u>No. of Candidates</u>	<u>% Offered Admission</u>	<u>% Entered</u>	<u>No. of Cadets</u>	<u>% Yield</u>
750-800	6	50%	33%	2	66%
700-749	68	66	35	24	53
650-699	190	59	40	76	68
600-649	377	42	31	115	74
550-599	550	31	23	127	74
500-549	429	22	18	77	82
450-499	157	12	10	15	83
400-449	57	2	2	1	100
350-399	14	0	0	0	0
300-349	11	0	0	0	0
250-299	3	0	0	0	0
200-249	0	0	0	0	0
Number	1862			437	
Mean	573			601	
SD	73			61	

TABLE 3
Summary of Whole Candidate Score Components
For the Class of 1990

Score Ranges	Academic				Male		Female		Leadership	
	CEER		ACEER		Physical Aptitude (PAE)		Physical Aptitude (PAE)		Potential (LPS)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
750-800	11	1	2	1	30	3	2	1	4	3
700-749	47	5	24	6	40	3	5	3	60	5
650-699	169	19	76	17	139	12	5	3	231	17
600-649	280	31	115	26	218	19	21	13	387	29
550-599	228	26	127	29	263	23	19	12	353	27
500-549	129	15	77	18	263	23	40	26	203	15
450-499	25	3	15	3	168	14	27	17	55	6
400-449	2	0	1	0	46	4	32	20	21	2
350-399	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	4	4	3
300-349	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
250-299	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
200-249	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	891		437		1168		157		1328	
Mean	609		601		575		523		598	
S.D.	61		61		80		84		60	

Two athletes did not have PAE scores recorded at entry on 2 July.

TABLE 4
Means and Standard Deviations for CEER,
LPS, PAE and WCS, Class of 1990

	CEER			LPS			PAE**			WCS		
	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
A*	6996	558	84	12159	541	84	5863	523	101	11164	5450	640
N*	3844	580	77	5716	566	77	5729	524	101	5712	5692	546
C*	891	610	61	1328	598	65	1168	575	80	1328	6016	392

**PAE for admitted cadets is shown for male cadets only, so that more valid comparisons can be made with prior years. Means and standard deviations of PAE for candidates are for male and female combined.

Means and Standard Deviations for ACEER, ACT-EN,
ACT-MA, and ACT-NS, Class of 1990

	ACEER			ACT-EN			ACT-MA			ACT-NS		
	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
A	3437	550	86	3435	22.3	3.9	3436	26.2	5.2	3432	27.8	4.5
N	1865	573	73	1865	23.1	3.5	1865	27.5	4.2	1865	28.6	3.9
C	437	601	61	437	23.9	3.2	437	28.9	3.7	437	29.4	3.3

Means and Standard Deviations for SAT-V, SAT-M, and
HSR, Class of 1990

	SAT-V			SAT-M			HSR		
	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
A	6993	519	94	6993	588	96	11915	534	113
N	3844	540	87	3844	614	84	5709	552	113
C	891	566	73	891	642	66	1328	582	108

*A = All candidates

*N = Fully qualified candidates

*C = Admitted candidates

TABLE 5

Comparison of the Number of Cadets with the Number of Fully Examined Candidates at Each Leadership Potential Level for the Class of 1990

<u>Score Ranges</u>	<u>No. of Candidates</u>	<u>Offered Admission</u>	<u>Entered</u>	<u>No. of Cadets</u>
750-800	8	63%	50%	4
700-749	148	64	41	60
650-699	600	53	39	231
600-649	1319	41	29	387
550-599	1416	34	25	353
500-549	1128	24	18	203
450-499	629	14	10	65
400-449	335	7	6	21
350-399	80	8	5	4
300-349	34	0	0	0
250-299	1	0	0	0
200-249	1	0	0	0
Number	5712			1328
Mean	566			598
SD	77			65

TABLE 6

Comparison of the Number of Cadets with the Number of Fully Examined Candidates at Each Whole Candidate Score Level for the Class of 1990

<u>Score Ranges</u>	<u>No. of Candidates</u>	<u>Offered Admission</u>	<u>Entered</u>	<u>No. of Cadets</u>	<u>% Yield</u>
7250-7499	4	100%	50%	2	50%
7000-7249	14	71	57	8	80
6750-6999	82	62	29	24	47
6500-6749	235	74	42	99	57
6250-6499	467	70	47	221	67
6000-6249	866	55	41	357	75
5750-5999	1060	35	28	295	80
5500-5749	1045	22	18	183	82
5250-5499	846	14	12	102	86
5000-5249	508	8	6	31	75
4750-4999	229	3	2	4	67
4500-4749	178	1	1	1	100
4250-4499	76	1	0	1	0
4000-4249	41	0	0	0	0
3750-3999	19	0	0	0	0
3500-3749	5	0	0	0	0
3250-3499	3	0	0	0	0
3000-3249	4	0	0	0	0
Number	5712			1328	
Mean	5694			6016	
SD	546			392	

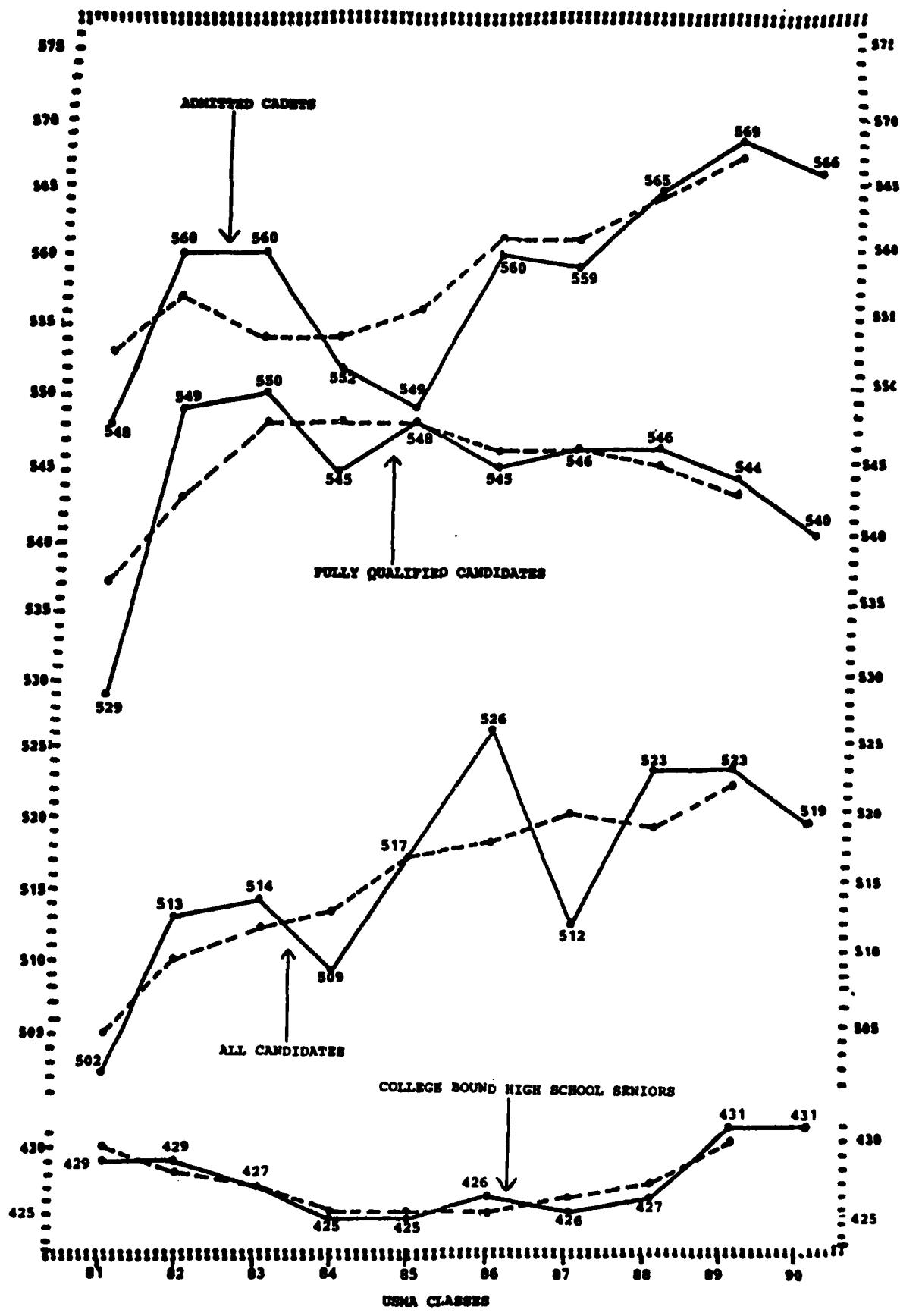


FIGURE 1

— TRENDS OF MEAN SAT VERBAL SCORES FOR CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS. CLASSES OF 1981-1990 AND ALL COLLEGE BOUND HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS NATIONWIDE.

- - - TRENDS OF MEAN SAT VERBAL SCORES FOR CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS. CLASSES OF 1981-1990 AND COLLEGE COLLEGE BOUND HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS NATIONWIDE USING A THREE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE.

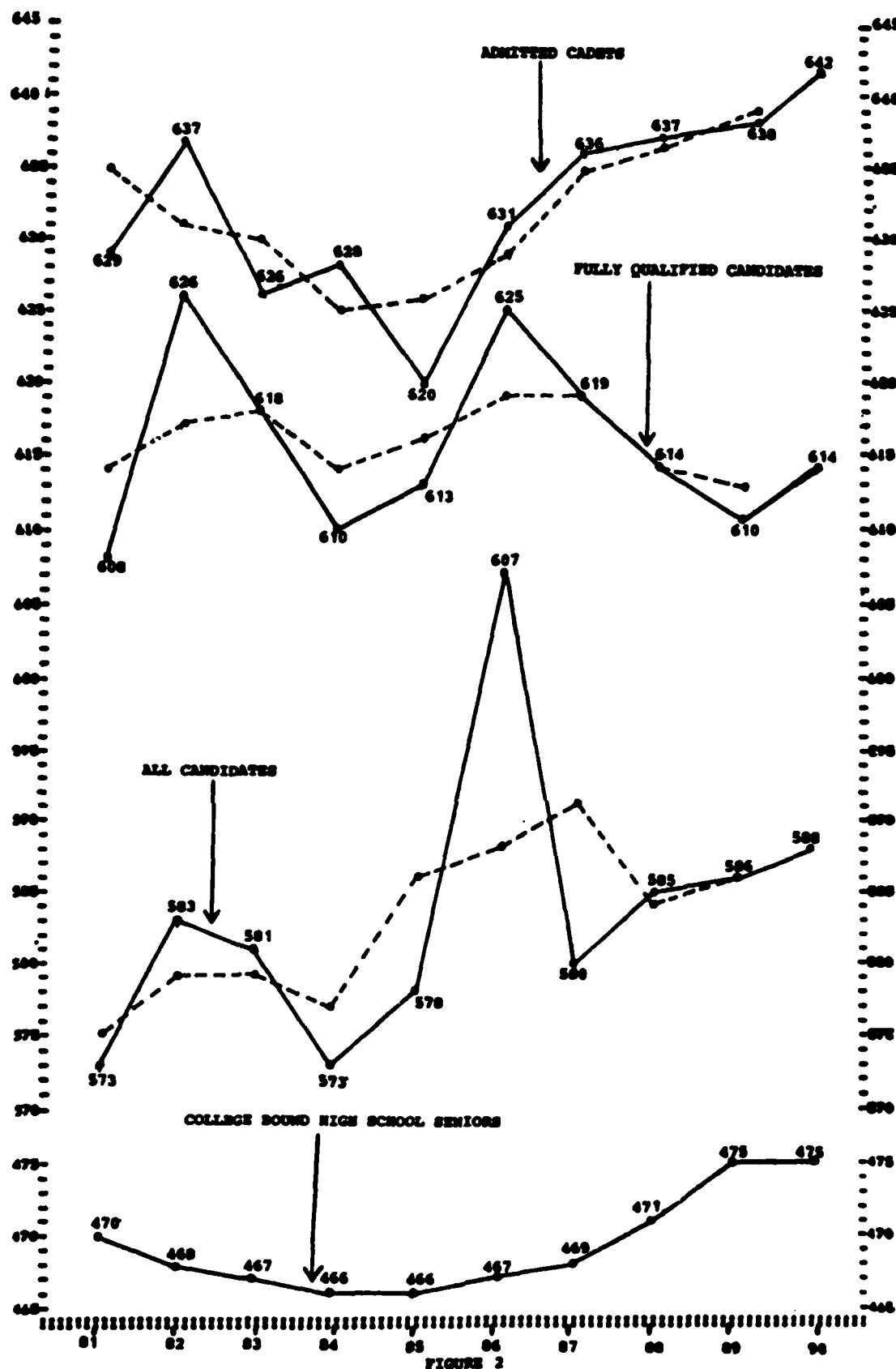


FIGURE 2
USMA CLASSES

- TRENDS OF MEAN SAT MATH SCORES FOR CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS. CLASSES OF 1981-1990 AND ALL COLLEGE BOUND HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS NATIONWIDE.
- - - TRENDS OF MEAN SAT MATH SCORES FOR CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS. CLASSES OF 1981-1990 AND ALL COLLEGE BOUND HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS NATIONWIDE USING A THREE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE.

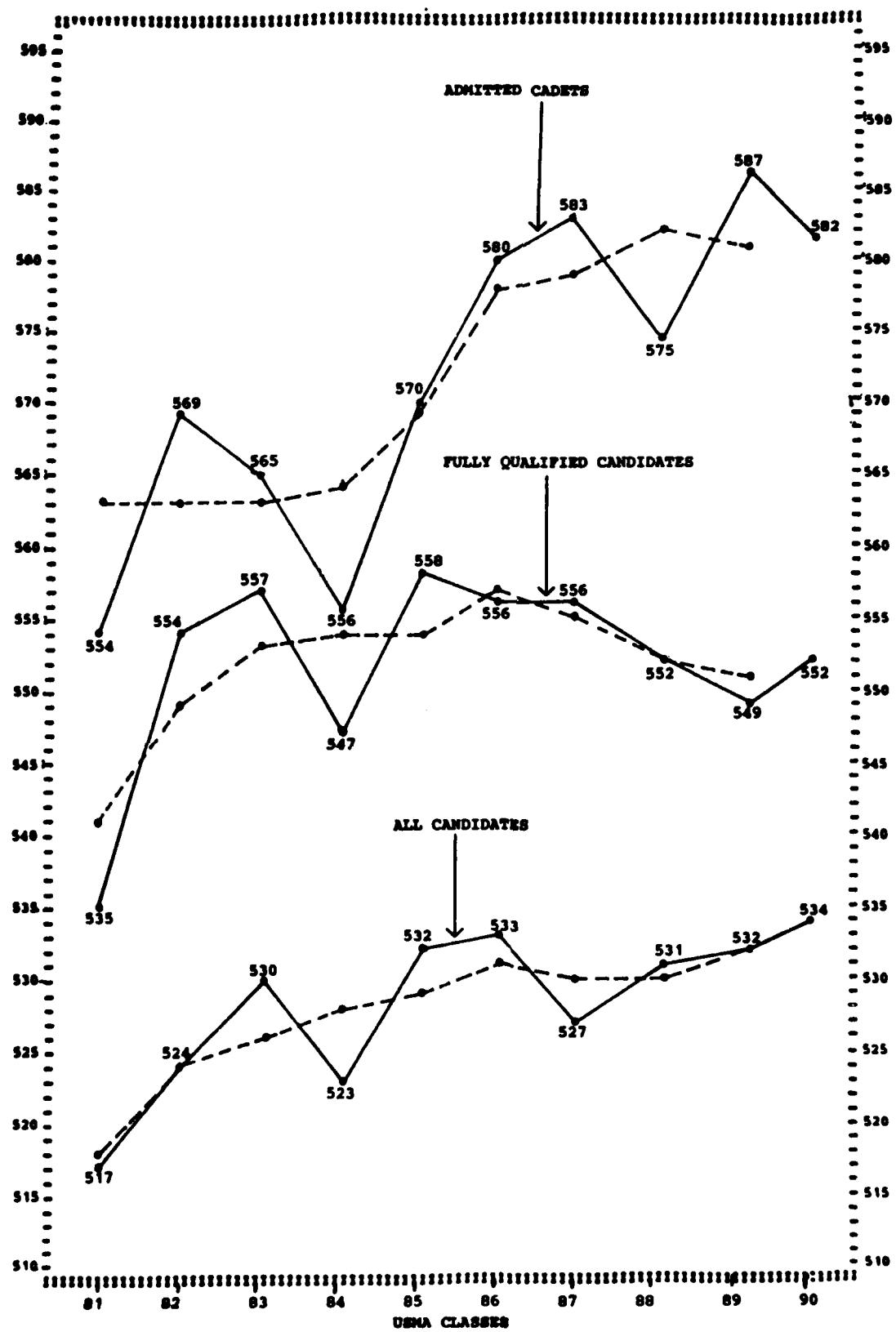


FIGURE 3

— TRENDS OF MEAN HIGH SCHOOL RANK SCORES FOR CANDIDATES AND CADETS CLASSES OF 1981-1990.

- - - TRENDS OF MEAN HIGH SCHOOL RANK SCORES FOR CANDIDATES AND CADETS CLASSES OF 1981-1990 USING A THREE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE.

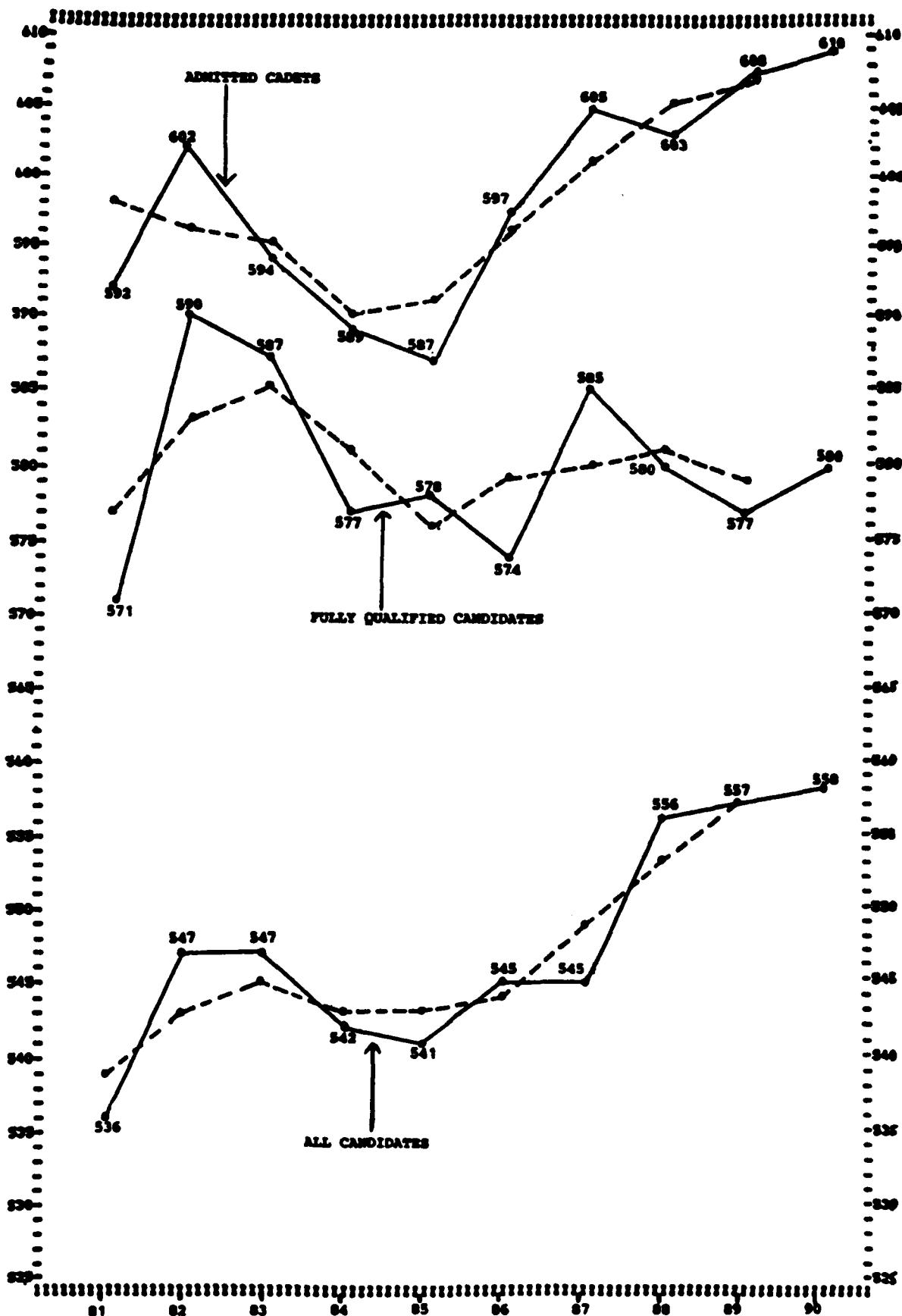
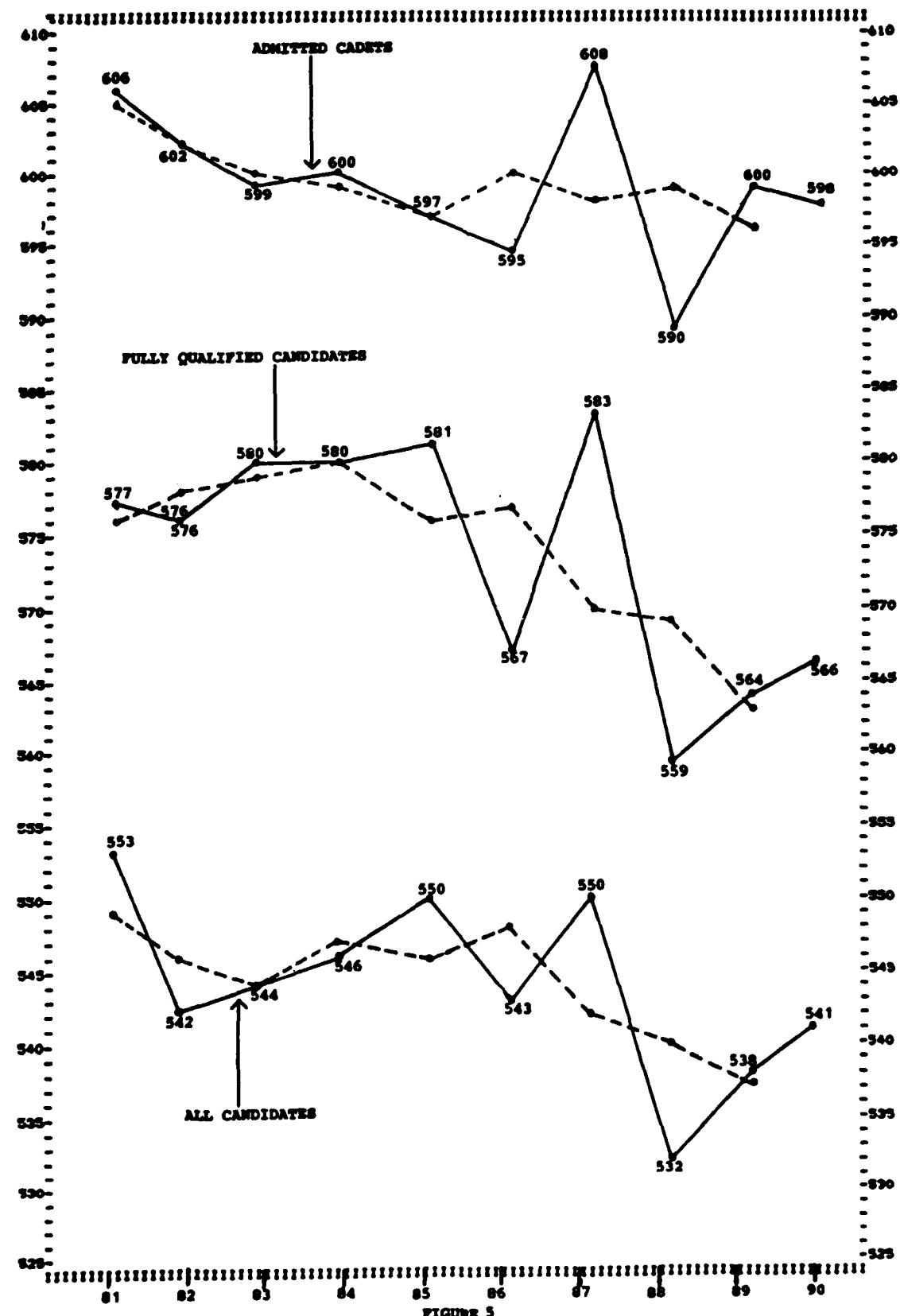


FIGURE 4
USMA CLASSES

— TRENDS OF MEAN CEEB SCORE FOR CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS - CLASSES 1981-1990.
— TRENDS OF MEAN CEEB SCORE FOR CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS USING THREE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE.



— TRENDS OF MEAN LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL SCORES. CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS - CLASSES 1981-1990.

- - - TRENDS OF MEAN LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL SCORES. CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS - CLASSES 1981-1990 USING A THREE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE.

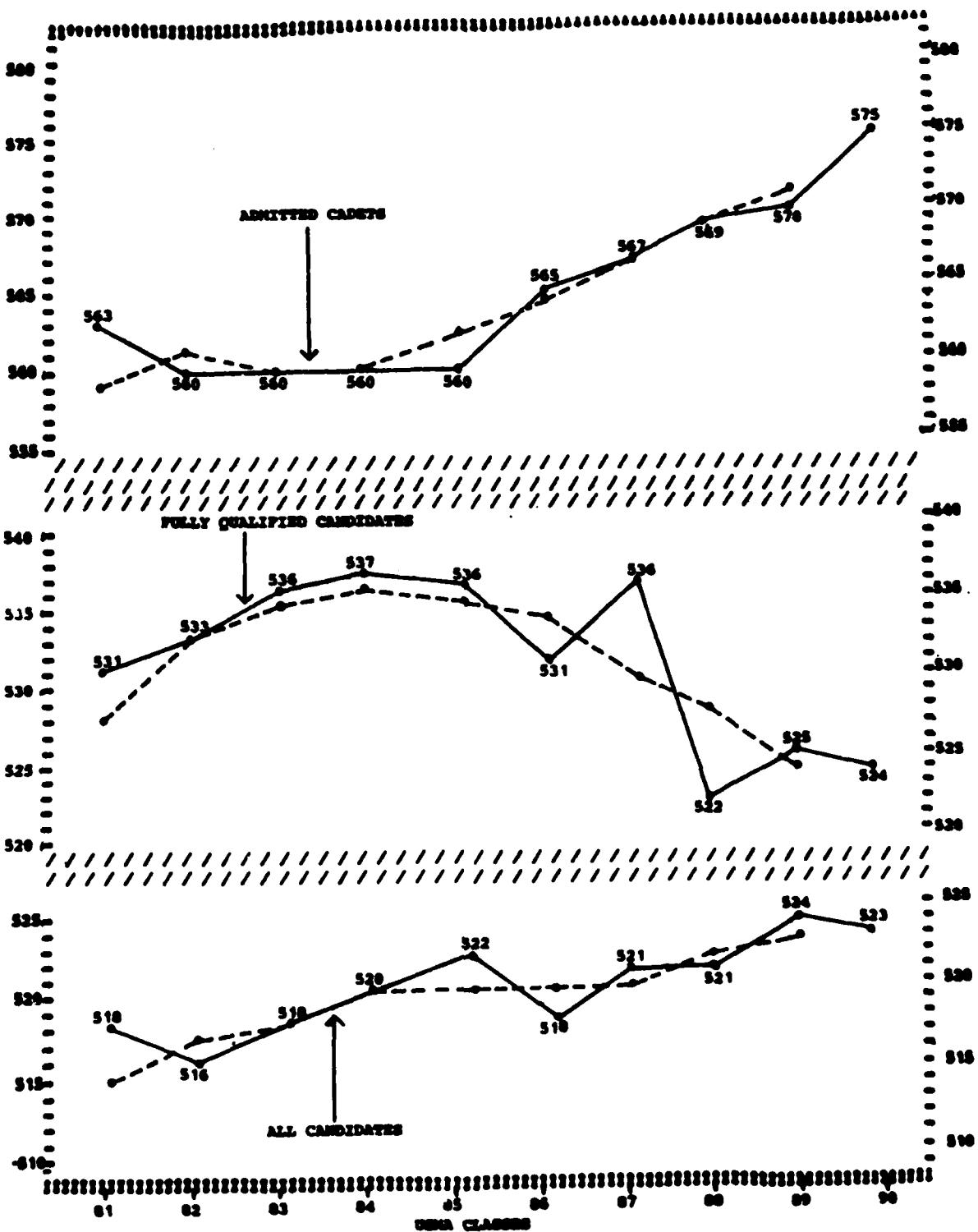


FIGURE 6

— TRENDS OF MEAN PAE SCORE FOR CANDIDATES AND ENTRING CADETS OF THE CLASSES OF 1981-1990
(PAE FOR ADMITTED CADETS IS FOR MALE CADETS ONLY).

— TRENDS OF MEAN PAE SCORE FOR CANDIDATES AND ENTRING CADETS OF THE CLASSES OF 1981-1990
(PAE FOR ADMITTED CADETS IS FOR MALE CADETS ONLY) USING A THREE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE.

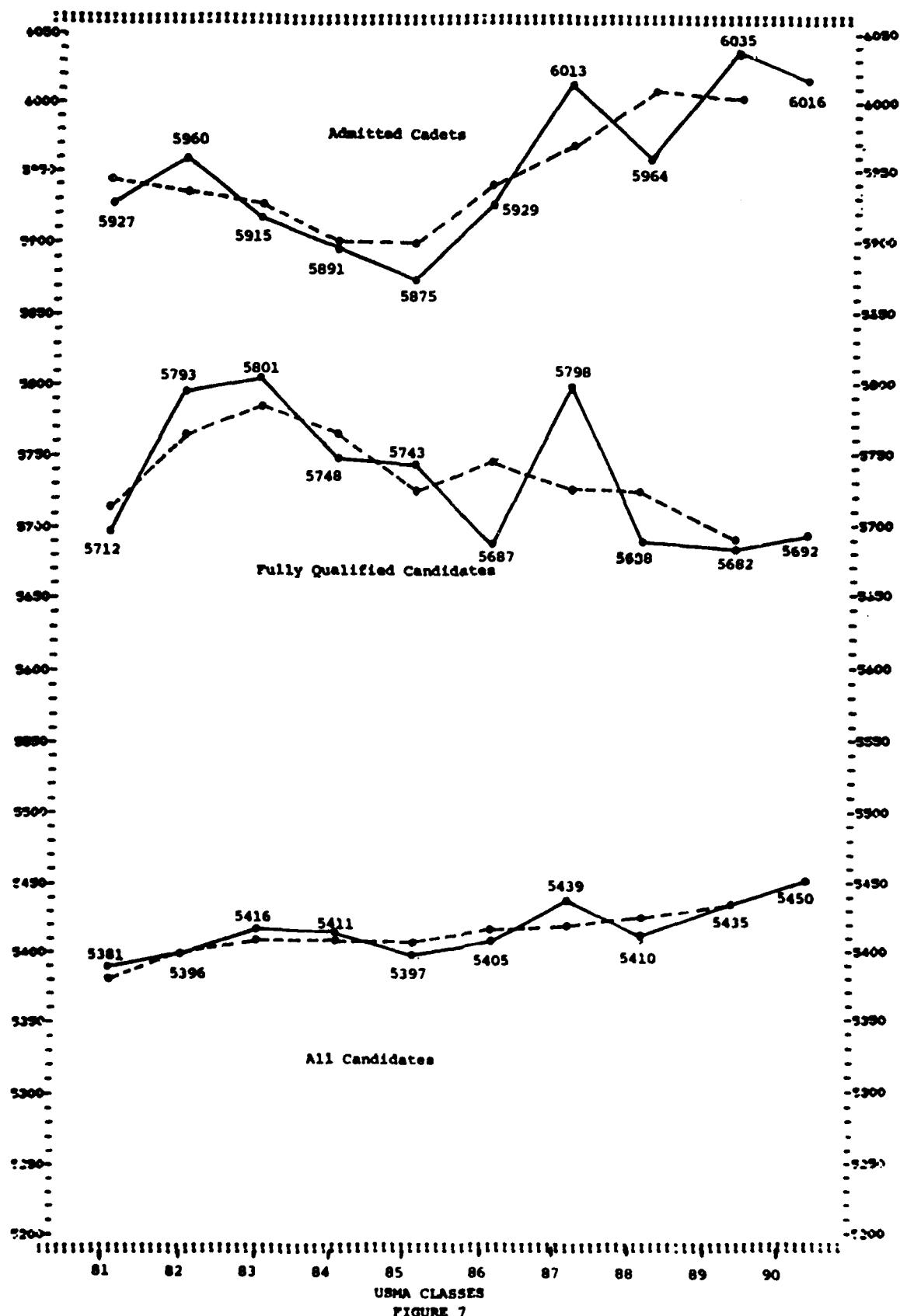


FIGURE 7

TRENDS OF MEAN WHOLE CANDIDATE SCORE FOR CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS, CL 81-90

TRENDS OF MEAN WHOLE CANDIDATE SCORE FOR CANDIDATES AND ENTERING CADETS, CLASSES OF 1981-1990, USING THREE-YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE

TABLE 7

Selected High School Activities and Awards of Entering Cadets in the Classes of 1981 Through 1990

	CLASS						1988	1989	1990
	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986			
Senior Class President	91(6%)	65(5%)	77(6%)	68(5%)	77(5%)	67(5%)	89(6%)	90(6%)	90(6%)
Senior Class Officer	192(13%)	177(13%)	187(13%)	235(16%)	242(16%)	214(15%)	224(16%)	230(16%)	219(16%)
Student Body President	97(7%)	73(5%)	81(6%)	63(4%)	76(5%)	85(6%)	70(5%)	81(6%)	93(7%)
Debate Team	163(11%)	160(12%)	159(11%)	158(11%)	170(11%)	170(12%)	170(12%)	192(14%)	180(13%)
Varsity Lettermen	1219(83%)	1161(83%)	1151(82%)	1228(84%)	1268(84%)	1210(85%)	1237(87%)	1190(85%)	1248(88%)
Team Captains	654(44%)	599(43%)	629(45%)	688(47%)	692(46%)	690(49%)	690(48%)	692(50%)	810(57%)
Scouts, All	804(55%)	748(54%)	761(54%)	733(50%)	735(48%)	639(45%)	629(44%)	623(45%)	601(42%)
Scouts, Eagle	209(14%)	142(11%)	182(13%)	174(12%)	138(10%)	122(10%)	111(9%)	113(9%)	138(10%)
Boys/Girls State Representative	315(21%)	275(20%)	310(22%)	333(23%)	297(20%)	312(22%)	346(24%)	297(21%)	331(23%)
High School Dramatic Club	209(14%)	215(16%)	209(15%)	229(16%)	219(14%)	219(15%)	237(17%)	228(16%)	212(15%)
Bausch & Lomb Science Award	38(3%)	30(2%)	28(2%)	30(2%)	26(2%)	39(3%)	56(4%)	43(3%)	51(4%)
American Legion Award	145(10%)	128(9%)	138(10%)	136(9%)	154(10%)	138(10%)	138(10%)	146(10%)	119(8%)

TABLE 7a
Selected Characteristics of Cadets in the Classes of 1981 through 1990

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>
Cadets with 1 or more months of College	263(18%)	213(15%)	260(19%)	215(14%)	174(11%)	204(14%)	156(11%)	169(12%)	194(14%)	173(13%)
Sons or Daughters of Alumni of USMA	62(4%)	57(4%)	59(4%)	54(4%)	59(4%)	51(4%)	41(3%)	47(3%)	37(3%)	58(4%)
Attended USMA Preparatory School	162(11%)	211(15%)	207(15%)	191(13%)	203(13%)	186(13%)	173(12%)	199(14%)	185(13%)	170(13%)
Attended Public High Schools	1283(86%)	1259(86%)	1194(85%)	1201(86%)	1246(85%)	1281(84%)	1209(85%)	1174(82%)	1127(81%)	1116(84%)
Attended Private High Schools	208(14%)	201(14%)	197(14%)	220(15%)	235(16%)	209(15%)	226(16%)	236(17%)	239(17%)	204(15%)
Rank In High School Class										
Top Fifth	1070(73%)	1055(76%)	1021(73%)	1003(69%)	1062(70%)	1031(73%)	1219(85%)	1162(83%)	1205(84%)	1151(87%)
Second Fifth	287(20%)	241(17%)	253(18%)	335(23%)	340(22%)	283(20%)	151(11%)	159(11%)	144(10%)	102(8%)
Third Fifth	95(6%)	89(6%)	102(7%)	102(7%)	92(6%)	88(6%)	46(3%)	50(4%)	46(3%)	50(4%)
Fourth Fifth	13(1%)	8(1%)	18(1%)	16(1%)	17(1%)	13(1%)	6(1%)	11(1%)	8(1%)	4(0%)
Bottom Fifth	2(0%)	2(0%)	3(0%)	4(0%)	5(0%)	3(0%)	2(0%)	5(0%)	4(0%)	4(0%)
Valedictorians	90(6%)	86(6%)	77(6%)	58(4%)	67(4%)	89(6%)	119(8%)	102(7%)	109(8%)	132(10%)
Salutatorians	66(4%)	62(4%)	58(4%)	60(4%)	65(4%)	89(6%)	93(6%)	78(6%)	100(7%)	72(5%)
N =	1469	1396	1398	1466	1538	1420	1435	1401	1428	1328

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